

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 14-16 and 21-23 in accordance with the following:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Previously Presented) A commodity sales system managing at least a commodity for sale in a first store and a commodity for sale in a second store, and comprising:
 - a product coordination database storing at least coordination information associating a first commodity for sale in the first store with a second commodity for sale in the second store; and
 - a first terminal at the first store for introducing both the first commodity and the second commodity to a customer in the first store, where after the first commodity is selected the second commodity is identified for the introducing based on the first commodity and the coordination information associating the first commodity with the second commoditywherein the first terminal displays a coordination image corresponding to the coordination information, including an image of the first commodity combined with an image of the second commodity.
3. (Previously Presented) The commodity sales system according to claim 2, wherein the coordination information comprises background information, and the first terminal displays the coordination image on a background image corresponding to the background information.
4. (Previously Presented) The commodity sales system according to claim 2, wherein the first terminal records coupon information available when the customer purchases, in the second store, the second commodity introduced by the first store, into a predetermined recording medium.
5. (Original) The commodity sales system according to claim 4,

wherein the coupon information comprises discount information of the second commodity.

6. (Previously Presented) A commodity sales system managing at least a commodity for sale in a first store and a commodity for sale in a second store, and comprising:

a coordination database storing at least coordination information of a first commodity for sale in the first store combined with a second commodity for sale in the second store;

a first terminal for introducing both the first commodity and the second commodity to a customer in the first store, based on the coordination information stored in the coordination database; and

a commodity database storing commodity information of at least the second commodity, including discount information applied when the customer purchases the second commodity based on the introduction by the first store,

wherein the first terminal records coupon information available when the customer purchases, in the second store, the second commodity introduced by the first store, into a predetermined recording medium,

wherein the coupon information comprises discount information of the second commodity, and

wherein the first terminal generates the coupon information referring to said commodity database.

7. (Previously Presented) The commodity sales system according to claim 2, further comprising:

a second terminal which reads the coupon information recorded in the recording medium, and executes sales processing for the second commodity according to said coupon information.

8. (Original) The commodity sales system according to claim 7, further comprising:

a commission management apparatus which receives, from the second terminal, a sales notification indicative of the sales processing according to the coupon information when the second terminal executes the sales processing for the second commodity according to the coupon information, and executes commission payment processing to be paid from the second store to the first store, based on said sales notification.

9. (Original) The commodity sales system according to claim 8,
wherein the second terminal acquires an amount of the sales commission based on predetermined commission information included in the coupon information, and notifies the commission management apparatus of the sales commission together with the sales notification.

10. (Original) The commodity sales system according to claim 8, further comprising:
a commodity database storing commodity information of at least the second commodity, including a sales commission to be paid from the second store to the first store, when the customer purchases the second commodity in the second store based on the introduction by the first store,

wherein, on receipt of the sales notification, the commission management apparatus acquires the sales commission referring to the commodity database.

11. (Previously Presented) The commodity sales system according to claim 2,
wherein the first terminal outputs a form on which the coupon information is printed.

12. (Original) The commodity sales system according to claim 11,
wherein, when the customer purchases the first commodity in the first store, the first terminal executes sales processing for the first commodity.

13. (Original) The commodity sales system according to claim 11,
wherein the first terminal prints out the coupon information on a receipt corresponding to the sales processing for the first commodity.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 27, further comprising using the record to provide a discount to the customer when the customer purchases the second commodity at the introduced store.

26. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 27, further comprising using the record to provide a reward to the original store when the customer purchases the second commodity at the introduced store.

27. (Previously Presented) A method of electronic inter-store referral of commodities, comprising:

at an original store, receiving human-inputted electronic information identifying a first commodity selected by a customer or clerk and offered for sale at the original store;

using the human-inputted electronic information identifying the first commodity to automatically identify, from among commodities offered at different stores, a second commodity offered for sale in an introduced store;

at the original store, electronically displaying information about the identified second commodity; and

at the original store, causing generation of a record indicating that the original store has referred the customer to the introduced store,

wherein the first and second commodities are products designed to be worn by customers, and where the displaying comprises displaying a depiction of the first commodity together with the second commodity.